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REVIEWS

Source Book for the Economic Geography of North America. By Charles C. Colby. The University of Chicago Press. 1921.

Even a brief study of this volume shows that it will serve a good purpose, for it is a step—and an important one—in the organization of material which is scattered so widely that its utilization is out of the question for those not in touch with good libraries, and sometimes discouraging to those who are. Every student of college grade who studies the geography of North America will find the book of great service, if not indispensable. The teacher of such students should welcome the volume, not as a textbook, but as the basis for a course on the economic geography of the continent. He must not expect that the book is to do away with his own work, but he may expect it to give him many suggestions as to methods of procedure and as to sources of material. Intelligent use of the book will make it serviceable for courses of various grades of advancement, and even for courses with somewhat diverse aims. A good feature of the book is that it gives publicity to much excellent material published in government reports and largely lost to view by many who could utilize it to advantage.

One cannot help wishing that the book were somewhat fuller, and that a well-annotated bibliography had been added. This may come with future editions.

R. D. S.

The Malagash Salt Deposit, Cumberland County, Nova Scotia. By A. O. Hayes. Ottawa: Canadian Geological Survey, Memoir 121, 1920. Pp. 24, fig. 1, maps 2.

Mining development has proved the presence of a sufficient quantity of pure salt in this area for the establishment of an important industry. The deposit is favorably located with respect to the supply of raw material and fuel, and has exceptional advantages for transportation either by rail or water.

Outcrops are not very abundant in the area, but sediments belonging to the Mississippian, early Pennsylvanian, and late Pennsylvanian or early Permian are identified, and are separated by two marked unconREVIEWS 83

formities. The Mississippian is represented by the Windsor series and the salt is interbedded with gypsum and shale in this series. The Windsor series has been intensely folded and faulted and is now exposed on the crest of an anticline where the main workings are located. The salt bed is about 75 feet below the surface. A shaft has been sunk to the salt horizon and the salt is removed by mining. One bed of rock salt over 21 feet thick is already being worked. Sylvite (potassium chloride) is present as fairly pure lenses in the halite and probably is a replacement of halite. Chemical analyses of rock salt show from 2.5 per cent to 11 per cent sylvite, and this potassium salt will probably be an important by-product from this deposit. Very little is known concerning the lateral extent of these salt beds, but since they were formed by the evaporation of sea water during the recession of the Mississippian seas in Windsor time, they are likely quite extensive.

The Windsor series is probably much more extensive than formerly thought, because limestone in Kings County, New Brunswick, formerly correlated with the Albert series, which is unconformable below the Windsor series, was found to contain Windsor fossils. A number of salt springs occur in the area where these fossils were collected and in other localities in New Brunswick and suggest the presence of salt beds in the Windsor series of this province, although up to the present no development work has been done near any of the springs.

J. F. W.

The Limestone and Phosphate Resources of New Zealand. Part I. Limestone. By P. G. Morgan. Geological Survey Branch, Department of Mines, New Zealand, 1919.

This is primarily a discussion in detail of the limestone resources of New Zealand, considered particularly in their relation to agriculture, and as such is mainly of local interest. The principal features of general interest are several excellent plates that illustrate remarkable fluted and pinnacled forms developed through erosion by solution.

As bearing upon the origin of oölitic and pisolitic structures in limestone, relations at Kotuku near Greymouth are of interest. Here several drill holes, sunk in search of oil, discharge in geyser-like fashion salt water highly charged with CO₂ and dissolved calcium carbonate. The greater part of the CO₂ at once escapes and, in consequence, abundant carbonate of lime is deposited wherever the water touches any solid object. As the water flows away it forms numerous little balls of carbonate of lime, in size and shape resembling marbles.

E. S. B.